IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hiroyuki SEMBA et al.

Art Unit: not yet assigned

Application No.: not yet assigned

Examiner: not yet assigned

Filed: April 22, 2004

Attorney Dkt. No.: 12049-0016

For: AUSTENITIC STAINLESS STEEL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 22, 2004

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Sir:

Prior to the calculation of fees and examination on the merits of the above-identified application, please amend the application as set forth below.

Amendments to the claims are submitted on page 2.

Remarks are submitted on page 5.